EAGLE
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
15 October 1982

Korczak-CIA Double-agent, Freedom Fighter

by Nicholas J. Kocz Eagle Staff Writer

Boris Korczak, a former CIA double agent who infiltrated the KGB in 1970, spoke to a group of D.C. area Young Americans for Freedom (Y.A.F.), saying that the U.S. should place more emphasis on security within the country.

Korczak, who fled to the United States in 1979 after his dual life was exposed, also spoke on his involvement in the Hungarian Uprising of 1946, recent attempts on his life, and his wishes to set-up an independent intelligence agency.

Korczak went to Hungary in 1956 to aid the rebelling freedom fighters. Although he was only 15 at the time, he was later put on trial by the Soviets for allegedly killing 23 Russians. Korczak is unable to put an exact total on the number he killed during this period, so he refuses to either confirm or deny this figure.

The Soviets originally sentenced Korczak to death for his actions, but because of his age, they lowered the sentence to life in a maximum security labor camp. After three years of confinement, he managed to escape, and re-locate in Denmark, where he started an import-export business.

It was through this business that he began making contacts within the KGB. Korczak had some difficulty convincing the Russians of his sincerity, since he fought in the '56 Revolution. He eventually managed to justify his involvement by saying he was an adventurer, rather than an anti-Soviet. He claimed he would fight for any cause, like a mercenary, if an adventure was near. He became an official agent of the KGB in 1970.

In 1974, he was made a contact for the CIA and began feeding his KGB overseerers faulty information. Before his cover was exposed in 1979, he managed to reach the KGB rank of Major (an equivalent to a Lt. Col in the Red Army).

After hediscoveredthat his cover was exposed, he fled to the United States with his son. Although the CIA had promised to grant him citizenship and give him financial aid if his cover was ever blown, the Agency refused to do so.

Since he came to this country, Korczak said there have been at least six attempts on his life, the most serious of which was when he was hit, while shopping, with a small metal pellet injected with poison. At the time he thought it was just a mosquito bite. He later learned that the KGB had used a similar method when they assassinated a Bulgarian dissident in London in 1979. This attempt put him in serious condition in a local hospital for several days. Besides this, he has also jumped, unwittingly, into bed with a poisonous snake.

A recently published report in the Readers Digest lists him as the reventh most wanted man by the

KGB out of 54,000 other Eastern Block dissidents.

Korczak focused much of his three-hour discussion on his plans to set-up an independent intelligence agency [Together International], employing private citizens, to more carefully monitor the actions of Soviet agents within the country. According to Korczak, there are regulations which limit the abilities of the CIA and FBI to monitor the activities of Soviet diplomats suspected of being intelligence officers.

Private citizens would do this effectively, Korczak said, even though they may need some training. He does not believe, realistically, that Together International would bring a halt to this alleged spying, but said he thinks a successful operation will make the Soviets hesitant to initiate further activities.

Korczak does not term him self, pro-American, but rather considers himself as pro-freedom and anti-Soviet. "[The US] is the last free nation on the earth", Korczak said.

He attacked US liberals in his discussion, stating that they are too compromising with the Soviets and that their actions are undermining the American way of life.

"Why don't you just call them [the liberals] Socialists anyway?" Korczak asked.

Korczak presently is trying to find the financial backing he needs to begin Together International as well-as trying to persuade US immigration officials to allow his wife and daughter to immigrate here from Denmark.